Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A surface-modified glove ~~article for use on a human hand,~~ comprising:

an elastomeric matrix in the shape of a glove that receives ~~the~~ a human hand therein, the matrix having an inside surface for contact with a human hand received within the glove ~~that contacts the human hand received within the hollow elastomeric glove shape,~~ and an outside surface; and

a plurality of colloidal silica particles adhered to at least a portion of the outside surface of the matrix and partially embedded therein without ~~but not~~ extending through the thickness of the matrix, ~~the colloidal silica particles being affixed to the outside surface of the matrix, at least certain of the silica particles being partially embedded within the outside surface~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein the elastomeric matrix ~~elastomer~~ comprises natural latex.

3. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein the elastomeric matrix ~~elastomer~~ comprises a synthetic elastomer.

4. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein the elastomeric matrix ~~elastomer~~ comprises a nitrile rubber.

5. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein the colloidal silica particles have a maximum dimension of from about 10 nanometers to about 100 nanometers.

6. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein the colloidal silica particles are electrically conductive.

7. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein the colloidal silica particles further comprise an electrically conductive surface treatment thereon.

8. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein the colloidal silica particles further comprise a layer of an electrically conductive material on the surface thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein the colloidal silica particles further comprise a layer of aluminum chlorohydrate on the surface thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, further including an inside surface treatment on the inside surface ~~of the glove shape~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The surface-modified glove ~~article~~ of claim 1, wherein there is no separate binder material affixing the colloidal silica particles to the outside surface.

12. (Currently Amended) A surface-modified article, comprising:

an elastomeric matrix having an outside surface; and

a plurality of colloidal silica particles adhered to at least a portion of the outside surface of the matrix without any separate binder material, said particles being partially embedded in said outside surface without ~~but not~~ extending through the thickness of the matrix~~, at least certain of said silica particles being partially embedded within the outside surface of said elastomeric matrix; the colloidal silica particles being affixed to the outside surface of the matrix without any separate binder material affixing the colloidal silica particles to the outside surface~~.

13. (Previously Amended) A surface-modified article, comprising:

an elastomeric matrix having a surface; and

a plurality of colloidal silica particles adhered to at least a portion of the surface of the matrix but not extending through the thickness of the matrix, the colloidal silica particles being affixed to the surface of the matrix without any separate binder material affixing the colloidal silica particles to the surface, wherein the colloidal silica particles are electrically conductive.

14. (Previously Amended) A method for making an elastomeric article, comprising the steps of:

providing a mold whose surface defines at least a portion of the surface of the elastomeric article;

preparing a coating composition comprising a plurality of colloidal silica particles;

applying the coating composition to a surface of the mold;

contacting a flowable elastomer ~~to~~ with the coated surface of the mold;

allowing the flowable elastomer to coalesce against the coated surface thereby forming an elastomeric article, said colloidal silica particles being adhered to said coalesced elastomer; and

separating the coalesced elastomer from the mold surface such that said coalesced elastomer is turned inside-out, said elastomeric article including an inside surface and an outside surface, said colloidal silica particles being adhered to said outside surface.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the elastomeric article is a glove.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the coating composition further comprises a coagulant.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the flowable elastomer comprises natural latex.

18. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the flowable elastomer comprises a synthetic elastomer.

19. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the flowable elastomer comprises a nitrile rubber.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The surface-modified article of claim 12, wherein the colloidal silica particles are electrically conductive.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method of claim 14, wherein the colloidal silica particles are partially embedded in the outside surface of said elastomeric article.

23-30. (Withdrawn)

23~~31~~. (Previously Added) A surface-modified glove ~~for use on a human hand~~ comprising:

an elastomeric matrix in the shape of a glove adapted to receive a human hand therein, said elastomeric matrix having an inside surface for contact with a human hand received within the glove and an outside surface; and

a surface treatment adhered to at least a portion of the outside surface of said glove, said surface treatment comprising a plurality of colloidal silica particles adhered to and partially embedded in said outside surface of said glove~~, at least certain of said silica particles being partially embedded within said outside surface~~.

24~~32~~. (Previously Added) A glove as defined in claim 23~~31~~, wherein said silica particles have a maximum dimension of from about 10 nanometers to about 100 nanometers.

25~~33~~. (Previously Added) A glove as defined in claim 23~~31~~, wherein said silica particles are electrically conductive.

26~~34~~. (Previously Added) A glove as defined in claim 23~~31~~, wherein the silica particles further comprise a layer of aluminum chlorohydrate on the surface thereon.

27~~35~~. (Previously Added) A glove as defined in claim 23~~31~~, wherein said silica particles are adhered to said outside surface of said glove by a binder.

28~~36~~. (New) The surface-modified article of claim 13, wherein the colloidal silica particles are partially embedded in the outside surface.

29~~37~~. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the colloidal silica particles are electrically conductive.